

REMARKS

Claims 21-22 are currently pending in this application. Upon entry of these amendments, claims 21-22 will remain pending. Applicant submit that no new matter is introduced into the specification by way of these amendments.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Applicants note that the rejection of claims 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph has been withdrawn. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st Paragraph

Claims 21-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the rejection states that Applicants have not provided written description for the full scope of antibodies binding pp32r1, because "[t]here is a lack of written description for pp32r1 because the specification at page 11, lines 27-30 says that pp32r1 encompasses naturally occurring mature proteins, precursors, and allelic variants of pp32r1." See Office Action, Page 2, line 25 extending to page 3, line 2.

Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection.

Claim 21 is amended herein to claim an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide consisting of the sequence of pp32r1 (SEQ ID NO:4), but does not specifically bind to a polypeptide consisting of the sequence of pp32 (SEQ ID NO:5). One of skill in the art would easily understand that the claim as amended encompasses antibodies that bind to the pp32r1 polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, but do not bind to the pp32 polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5. Applicants submit that the claim element that the claimed antibody must bind a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4, and not bind a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:5, meets the written description requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph.

CONCLUSION


Applicant believes that incorporation of the amendments and consideration of the above remarks has placed this application in a condition for allowance. Early notification of a favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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